

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the application is requested in view of the amendments to the claims and the remarks presented herein.

The claims in the application are claims 1 to 3, 5, 6, 8 to 10 and 14, all other claims being cancelled.

Applicants are filing herewith a new drawing showing the venting groove.

Claims 1 and 2 have been amended to obviate the Examiner's objections.

Claims 1 to 3, 5, 6, 8 to 10 and 14 were rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph. Claims 1 to 3 were rejected as being indefinite in "a flexible seal" and "a force component acting in clockwise direction in crosswise to the axis of rotation". Claim 8 was deemed awkward and claim 5 deemed unclear in "the sealing lip".

Applicants traverse these rejections since the amended claims comply with 35 USC 112. The term "flexible seal" is now defined as a sealing disc positionally fixed on an outer circumference in a positively engaging and elastic manner in an annular groove of an outer bearing ring. The term "clockwise" is now defined as directed to the rolling element of the

bearing.

Claim 5 has been amended to refer to "first sealing" and claim 8 has been clarified.

Therefore, withdrawal of these rejections is requested.

Claims 1 to 3, 5, 6, 8 to 10 and 14 have been rejected under 35 USC 103 as being obvious over Ishiguro taken in view of Irwin and claim 14 was rejected over the said references taken in view of Kajihara. The Examiner states that Ishiguro discloses an elastic sealing disk running around with an outer bearing ring or a housing, having a reinforcement and positionally fixed with positive engagement in a receptacle or an annular groove and Irwin teaches a bead facing away from the contact point for the purpose of allowing disengagement from contact with non rotating element so as to not adversely affect the operating and it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the teaching of Ishiguro.

Applicants traverse these rejections since the cited art does not teach Applicants' invention. Applicants' invention teaches a radial mounting position which is provided for seal; the second sealing lip is aligned inclined in the direction of the recess and the first sealing lip has a venting groove, in the region of the sealing edge.

The Ishiguro patent shows in Fig. 6 a seal with a first sealing lip which is supported on a wall of a recess and a second sealing lip is aligned perpendicular to the first sealing lip and does not incline into the recess.

The Irwin patent shows only one seal with an axially oriented sealing lip. The additional mass embedded in the sealing lip causes a complete lifting of the sealing lip of the contact area when in operation. So the seal completely loses its sealing effect. In opposition to the prior art the lip in the invention is arranged radially. As an additional mass of the sealing lip, the bead causes opposition to Irwin. The Irwing patent is not a complete lifting from the wall but with increasing speed decreases the force with which the sealing lip is supported on the wall. Ishiguro and Irwing do not show or describe a sealing lip with a ventilation groove in the region of the sealing edge. Therefore, withdrawal of these rejections is requested.

In view of the amendments to the claims and the above remarks, it is believed that the claims point out Applicants' patentable invention. Therefore, favorable reconsideration of the application is requested.

Respectfully submitted,



Charles A. Muserlian #19,683
Attorney for Applicants
Tel. 845 268 2462

CAM:mlp
Enclosures